

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 74

By Ford

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Bishop Brandon B. Porter upon being elected to the General Board of the Church of God in Christ.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this legislative body should honor those individuals who have answered a divine call to the ministry and who have served with dedication, vigor, and enthusiasm to perform God's work for their congregations and their communities; and

WHEREAS, Bishop Brandon B. Porter of Memphis is one such stalwart servant of the Lord, who has recently been elected to the Church of God in Christ General Board during the denomination's 103rd annual convocation, which was held in St. Louis; and

WHEREAS, believing his election to the General Board a matter of obedience to God, Bishop Porter is exceedingly pleased to represent the great city of Memphis on the twelve-member governing body of this international order of Christians and give voice to the historical epicenter of the faith; and

WHEREAS, the son of Bishop W. L. Porter, a legacy bearer in this mighty denomination, Bishop Porter is impelled to strengthen the presence of the Church of God in Christ in the Memphis area, and he longs to accomplish the return of the church's annual convocation to Memphis where it was held from 1907 through 2007; and

WHEREAS, with reverent delight, Senator Ophelia Ford proclaimed, "Being elected to the Church of God in Christ General Board is a big deal," great are the expectations that all Memphians hold for Bishop Porter's board tenure to be endowed with divine guidance and infinite blessings that bring the holiness of God's kingdom to us here on earth; and

WHEREAS, regarding Bishop Porter's move to leadership in the world-wide church organization, Memphis Mayor A. C. Wharton stated, "The Porter name has been synonymous

with the Church of God In Christ since its earliest years. Having Bishop Porter serving on this body is positive for Memphis as we continue to work to deepen our relationship with an organization that is a part of our very fiber as a city”; and

WHEREAS, a gifted preacher and inspiring leader who possesses an immense heart of servanthood, Bishop Porter has for years ministered at both his church in Hickory Hill and his church in north Memphis, spiritual duties he will continue even as he works for the good of the denomination at its highest level of governance; and

WHEREAS, as in all the days of his life that have passed, Bishop Brandon Porter is wed to the covenant with his Lord to act everyday, in every way to enrich his community and his congregations by planting the ever yielding Word of God among people hungry for divine truth, and it is appropriate this legislative body should give him proper recognition; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we congratulate Bishop Brandon Porter of Memphis upon his election to the General Board of the Church of God in Christ, thank him for the spiritual and civic leadership he provides, and extend to him our best wishes for success in all his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.